

The first case which has yet been brought before the

Courts under the new law is that of James Duffy, one of the most notorious ticket-swindlers in this city, and

who has been arrested innumerable times for that offense.

On Saturday last Mr. John James, a Methodist minister from Miami, being desirous of securing passage for himself, his wife, and three children to California, was induced to call at Duffy's office, No. 109 West street. Here he found Duffy and a man named Chas. Gilmore, who were exceedingly anxious to sell him tickets. They showed him a diagram of the second cabin accommodations of the steamer which was announced as the next to sail for California, and he finally selected his quarters, paying \$600 for three full fares. He subsequently ascertained that the swindlers had palmed off upon him three tickets entitling him and his family "to the privileges of the steerage, with steerage fare." Had he bought steerage tickets of the Company they would have cost him \$30, so that Duffy and Gilmore made \$570 clear gain out of the povered gentleman. Mr. James at once laid a complaint against the swindlers before Justice Welsh, who issued a warrant for their apprehension; but the rascals had fled to Jersey, where they were without the pale of the law. Mr. James then made a supplementary affidavit denouncing Duffy's house as a disorderly one, and coming within the province of the new law. Thereupon Capt. Hart of the Twenty-sixth Precinct was directed to make a descent upon the premises immediately. He accordingly proceeded to the office yesterday afternoon with several men, when he found it closed up entirely, and all the birds flown. A lookout will be kept for Duffy and Gilmore, and they will be required to answer the complaint as soon as they may return. "A determined effort will hereafter be made to break up the nefarious business"—so say the magistrates.

A BOOTBLACK'S WINDFALL.—Michael Crowley, a youthful bootblack, while in the act of rallying forth

from his dry-goods box lodgings in Cherry street, a morning or two since, encountered an unlucky windfall. Andrew Brown, who resides at No. 188 Cherry street, was slowly sauntering past Michael's kennel, when he dropped his wallet, containing \$50 in gold. Michael waited till the pensive Andrew had reached a respectful distance, when he came down upon the wallet like a bird of prey, and hastily slipped it into his pocket. Congratulating himself hugely upon his good fortune, he hastened to invest his treasure in a variety of gewgaws, and soon after presented himself among his astonished companions, with a handsome gold watch-chain dangling from one of his ragged suspenders. The eye of an ever-vigilant policeman was soon upon him, and Michael was compelled to account for his possession of so valuable a trinket. Michael, thereupon, confessed all about finding the pocketbook, and gave up \$25 of the money which he still retained. The lad was taken before Justice Brennan, who committed him to answer a charge of grand larceny.

**FIGHT ON BOARD A SHIP.**—A number of boatmen runners went on board the ship *Glatane*, lying at the foot of Rutgers street, in the East River, and tried to induce some of the sailors to go ashore with them. As the hands concluded to stick by the ship, the runners became exasperated, and commenced an assault upon them. During the fight which ensued, two of the sailors, named Marshal Robor and Matthew Gracie, were seriously stabbed and badly beaten. The runners then escaped to the shore, and were not seen again till yesterday afternoon, when Officer De Corday, of the Seventh Precinct, arrested William Waldron, a runner, on suspicion of being one of the boarding party. He was identified by several of the sailors, and Justice Brennan committed him to answer.

**TRAP-BLOCK PAVEMENTS.**—The following contracts for laying trap-block pavements were awarded yesterday by the Commissioners of the Croton Board:

In State street, awarded to Hugh Himes, at \$2.06 per square yard.

In Thirty-fifth street, awarded to Wm. A. Cummings, at \$2.15 per square yard.

In Beede street, awarded to J. B. & D. C. Culver, at \$1.96 per square yard.

In Chambers street, awarded to Wm. A. Cummings, at \$112 per square yard.

In Anslty street, awarded to Wm. A. Cummings, at \$104 per square yard.

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**A DELICATE OPERATION.**—One of the most delicate manipulations in engineering is about to be performed in connection with the lowering of the west supply pipe of the Croton Aqueduct, which runs through Eighth avenue. This pipe is 30 inches in diameter. It is to be lowered to a depth of ten feet below its present position, without the water being stopped. In the upper part of the avenue, the work has already commenced. The earth is being excavated from over and under the pipe, and props are to be introduced until the whole excavation of 11 miles shall have been completed. Then it will be lowered to its bed gradually, so as to prevent the curve at any part of the pipe from breaking. It appears that the water cannot be shut off from the pipe, owing to the fact that a large portion of the western district of the city is dependent on it for supply. If the pipe should break in the course of the operation, the disaster would be terrible in its effects upon the adjacent property, while the supply would

**ACCIDENTS AND INQUESTS.**—Coroner Schirmer held an inquest on Tuesday, at No. 695 Ninth avenue, on the body of Ellen Stecker, and two years, who was accidentally killed by being run over by a street car on the corner of Ninth and Madison streets. The child was playing on the track as the car approached, when a lady in a neighboring apartment called out to her to get out of the way. The child, in obedience of the driver, so that, before he was aware of her presence, the child was under the car. The jury returned a verdict of "accident," and the coroner held an inquest on Tuesday on the body of Joseph and William Hester, who were killed by a street car on the corner of that day, at No. 164 Hester street, by cutting his throat with a razor. He has been sick for a long time, and it is thought that he was partially deranged at the time.

**BURGLARY IN FULTON STREET.**—The store of Messrs. J. & C. J. Corey, No. 65 Fulton street, was entered a night or two since, and robbed of a valuable lot of fishing tackle. The loss at first was estimated at \$500, but gradually dwindled down to \$1,300, where it now remains. Capt. Weed of the Second Ward and his officers are sent scouring to trace out the thieves, but there is little prospect of their succeeding.

**PASSING A COUNTERFEIT BILL.**—Joseph Lewis was yesterday arrested, charged with having passed a counterfeit \$10 bill at the First Bank of Alabama. He was detected while in the act of passing a second one, and, on being taken before Justice Welsh, was committed to answer.

[Advertisement.]

**A PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF AN ORGAN, at 3 o'clock,  
THIS AFTERNOON, at the factory of W. H. DAVIS, No. 40 Downing-  
ston. This Organ is built for St. Paul's Church, Staten Island.  
Has 22 stops.**

[Advertisement.]

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FROM MERIN FANCY, when Phrenology will point out the one that  
which nature has best adapted you. Examinations daily at  
FOWLER & WELLS, No. 23 Broadway.**

[Advertisement.]

**Gas! Gas!—New Gas FIXTURES for the Spring  
trade, superior to any ever offered before, will be found at our  
best Manufacturing Depot. Removed to No. 579 Broadway,  
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**PARKER BROS., LONDON CLUB SAUCE** is superior to all others now in use, and add at a week less to the added to meat, fish, or soup. It is the only way to procure a bottle from any respectable grocer to test its savory qualities. **A. J. PARKER, No. 15 Beekman-st., Sole Agent for the United States.**

[Advertisement.]

**SHOES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.**—The difficulty of procuring good boots and shoes for children has been noticed by **CANTRELL, of No. 315 Broadway.** He has now manufactured an extensive stock of first-class articles, from which parties can make selections, at low prices, at his store.